WHITES

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A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

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Father Darkleaf

BY CALVIN ROBINSON

Greetings on a very wet Monday morning in April. From my Den window, my garden area looks like a rice paddy. Had planned to start planting April Fool Day but the land was not ready and now prospects are dim for an early start. Did gather several tulips over the week end and should have done some grass cutting, but was too lazy. Was encouraged when a friend stopped me in a food store to say her tomato plants were planted, including some yellows, and would remember me when they got ripe. Thanks. A verse of No. 88.

* * *

Saturday is April 9, Appomattox's famous date in history, and we are told that it had been a wet week here at Appomattox ending on Palm Sunday, 1865 when Generals Lee and Grant met in the home of Wilmer McLean to make Peace. From the seige lines at Petersburg, the retreat route taken by Lee was 105 miles and required seven days of tortuous march. The Yankees controlled the railroad and got here first.

* * *

And speaking of Yankees arriving first, reminds me that predictions are that the New York Yankees will cop first in baseball this season. Opening game is Saturday, April 9 against Milwaukee. The ACHS Raiders baseball team got off to a good start in an opening game win over Buckingham.

* * *

Place names always fascinate me. There is an Oatmeal, Nebraska; Monkey's Eyebrows, Kentucky; Hot Coffee, Mississippi; Lookinglass, Oregon; and Calamity, Massachusetts.

* * *

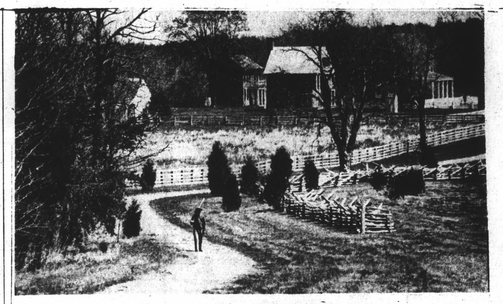
Came across a long list of items under the heading "Do You Remember?" Let us try a few. Do You Remember when Appomattox had a watering trough for horses and where it was located? When the block between the railroad and Dr. Christian's corner was called Chinatown? When a silver plate was kept in the hall for calling cards? When onion soup was taken for a sore throat and an onion poultice applied for pain in the chest? When barefoot children had to wash their feet before bedtime? When the ice house had to be filled before the last freeze? When boys sometimes had a live "hop toad" in their pocket and used it to scare girls? When sinus trouble was known as "catarrh?" When men felt important when they received mail with "Esquire" added after the name? When a hard day's work made a soft bed? Looking for a collar button that had rolled under the bed? When town folk gathered at the depot to meet incoming trains? When sermons lasted an hour? When sassafras tea was a standard drink? When a friend got a broken arm cranking the Model T. And the gas tank was under the front seat? When baseballs were homemade? When homes and public places kept a cuspidor handy when meat markets had an inch of sawdust or wood shavings on the floor? When a hat pin was a dangerous weapon? When sorghum molasses was a substitute for sugar? When to get someone on the telephone instead of a dial you rang a combination of "longs and shorts"? When "court day" was also horse-trading day?

And finally, when "the country store" was in its heyday, a real community center, as witness the following borrowed rhyme . . .

"And we wish that now that store somehow
Was part of the present way of life;
That the world was free as it used to be
Of the agony of bitter strife;
And disputes that now makes nations snarl
Could be settled around a cracker barrel?"

* * *

Thanks for reading. Seeya next week.



Appomattox: One Nation, Now

Here on Palm Sunday, April 9, 1865 General Robert E. Lee surrendered the most renowned and successful of all Confederate armies to Union Commander Ulysses S. Grant. Bidding farewell to the army, Lee thanked his men for four years of "Unsurpassed courage and fortitude." The war was over, an era had spent itself. The nation would now turn to the problems of reunion and peace.

For nine months, from June 1864 to April 1865, Grant's Federal Armies besieged Richmond and Petersburg, last strongholds of Lee's Army and the Confederate government. The campaign was a study of attrition. As losses, captures, and desertion thinned Lee's defensive line, Grant was strengthened by the arrival of armies from other theaters. At the battle of Five Forks on April 1, a union victory compelled Lee to evacuate his position to save his army. The next day the Confederates marched away from Petersburg and headed west, intending to pick up rations at Amelia Court House, then proceed down the railroad to Danville, and ultimately join forces with General Joseph E. Johnston, operating in North Carolina.

At Amelia Court House, Lee's hungry and exhausted veterans found no rations waiting. At Jetersville a strong Union cavalry force under Sheridan blocked the retreat south and caused Lee to turn west toward Lynchburg. At Sayler's Creek on April 6, the Confederate rearguard was cut off and over 6,000 men captured. At Farmville Lee barely beat Grant across the Appomattox, but the race was so close that the main bridge went undestroyed, and Grant continued to press hard on Lee's heels.

By Saturday night, April 8, in camp just east of Appomattox Court House, Lee realized that his army was trapped seeing the light of Union campfires to the south, east, and west.

At a council of war that evening, Lee and his generals decided on one last try the next morning. If only cavalry lay ahead of them, then perhaps they could break out. At dawn on April 9, Lee sent General Fitzhugh Lee with cavalry and General John B. Gordon with infantry to drive back Union horseman blocking the Richmond Lynchburg Stage road west of the village of Appomattox Court House. They brushed aside the cavalry, only to run into Union General E. O. C. Ord's Union infantry, Ord stopped the Confederates, pushed them back, and by 10:00 a.m. had

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DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY SET FOR JUNE 14, 1977

Joan S. Mahan, Secretary of the State Board of Elections, has notified the Secretary of the Electoral Board of Appomattox County that pursuant to the provisions of Section 24.1-176 of the Code of Virginia, a notice in proper form has been received from the proper authorities requesting the calling of a Democratic Primary election of Appomattox County for the purpose of nominating candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and House of Delegates.

The Democratic Primary election has been set for June 14, 1977.

April 11 - 22 Set For Spring Clean-Up

week period. Citizens are requested to cut up brush into four or five foot lengths so that it can be handled by town forces and that all rubbish be at the street line so that heavy trucks will not have to go onto private property.

Appomattox is a growing town - let's keep it a clean town.

April 11th through April 22nd has been designated as Spring Clean-Up Weeks in the Town of Appomattox by the Appomattox Town Council.

Citizens in the Town of Appomattox may call for special pick-up of trash, brush and debris during this two -

GRADING COMPLETE AT PAMPLIN COMMUNITY CENTER

Horace Coleman, Pamplin Ruritan Club President (left), and contractor W. Frank Moore (right) admire the finished grading at the Pamplin Community Center. Moore was the lowest of four bidders. The Ruritans appreciate Mr. Moore's fine work and generosity. USDA Soil Conservation Service provided the engineering for the project.

APRIL IS FUND DRIVE MONTH FOR GLADSTONE RESCUE SQUAD

The month of April is Fund Drive Month for the Gladstone Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Members of the Gladstone Rescue Squad will appreciate your contributions so that they may continue to render a service to their community.

Historical Society To Meet April 12th

Dr. Merywyn Williamson, President of the Appomattox County Historical Society, has announced that the annual business meeting for the Historical Society will be held at 7:30 P.M. on April 12, 1977 at the Appomattox Middle School cafeteria.

All members are urged to make plans to attend.

Lions Ladies Easter Night Will Be Tonight

The annual Easter Ladies Night will be held in the Appomattox County High School cafeteria tonight, Thursday, beginning at 6:15 p.m.

The all-entertainment program will feature the "Capri-chords", the quartette unit of the well-known "Sweet Adelines" of Lynchburg. The traditional orchids will be presented to the ladies present.

Please note the change in time of this meeting. Lions Club will meet at 6:15 p.m., thirty minutes earlier than regular time.

Congressman To Hold Workshops In Area

Fifth District Congressman Dan Daniels will hold "workshop" sessions with constituents in Pittsylvania and Campbell Counties on Thurs., April 14.

The Congressman will be in the Circuit Court in Chatham from 9 to 11 a.m. and at the Circuit Court in Rustburg from 1 to 3 p.m.

Any resident of the Fifth District, who has a problem with a Federal agency or who wishes to discuss legislation pending before Congress, may see the Congressman at those times. Those wishing to discuss Social Security, veterans, military or other types of cases should bring with them any correspondence from the agencies involved, to facilitate handling of the requests.

On Tues., April 12, Daniel will hold "workshops" in the Circuit Court clerk's office at Lawrenceville, from 9 to 11 a.m., and at the Circuit Court in Boydton, from 1 to 3 p.m.

On Friday, April 8th, he will hold "workshops" at the Fire Station in South Boston from 8 to 10 a.m.; in the Circuit Court Room of the Halifax County Courthouse from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and in the Circuit Court Room at the Charlotte County Courthouse from 1 to 4 p.m.

MEMBER-MEMBER GOLF TOURNEY AT F. R. C. C. SET FOR APRIL 23 - 24

Registrations for the annual Member-Member Golf Tournament, to be played April 23 and 24 at Falling River Country Club, are now being accepted.

Male members, 16 years and over, should contact Warren Moser, Pro, at 352-7037 and indicate their preference for morning or afternoon play.

Participants will be limited to 68 teams. Entry fee of $5.00 for each member playing will be included in the next billing.

Refreshments will be served both days.

Flights will be established after 18 holes of play.

Little League Coaches To Shape Up Field For Season

All coaches of Major and Minor Little League Baseball Teams and any other persons interested in helping are asked to be at the WOW field Monday night, April 11th at 6:30 p.m. to help get the field in shape for the upcoming baseball season.

Commissioner of Revenue Office To Open Saturdays

Commissioner of the Revenue for Appomattox County, Monte Mays, has announced that his office will be open each Saturday - April 2 and April 9 from 9 a.m. until noon in order to assist citizens with filing their State Income taxes and personal property taxes.

Mayor Proclaims April Cancer Control Month

Mayor Henry B. Pack is shown signing proclamation declaring April as Cancer Control Month for Appomattox.

"We want to wipe out cancer in YOUR lifetime" is again the theme for the 1977 Cancer Crusade in the state of Virginia and the Appomattox County unit of the American Cancer Society plans to do its part to make this theme a reality.

On Tuesday of this week, Henry B. Pack, Mayor of the Town of Appomattox, signed a proclamation declaring the month of April as Cancer Control Month.

"Maybe we'll cure cance without your help, but don't bet your life on it," says the American Cancer Society. The way it stands today, one American out of four will someday have cancer. That means it will strike some member of two out of three families in America.

To change those statistics we have to bring the promise of research to everyday reality. And to expand our detection program and techniques. And that takes money. Lots of money. Money we won't have - unless you help us.

The American Cancer Society will never give up the fight. Maybe we'll find the answers even without your help - but don't bet your life on it.

Dr. C. G. O'Brien, President of the Appomattox County Unit, has previously announced that Mrs. Marge Mims and Mrs. Beck Hudson are serving as the 1977 Co-Chairmen for the Cancer Crusade in Appomattox County. They have appointed committee for solicitation of residents in the county with many volunteers making a door-to-door canvass during the month of April asking for contributions to help "wipe out cancer in your lifetime."

Mrs. Mary Alma Hudson will again serve as Chairman of Memorial Funds and Mrs. June Chenault will serve as Chairman of Business solicitation. Mr. and Mrs. William C. Dudley will be chairmen for Pamplin area, Mrs. Christine Ranson and Mrs. Helen Inge will solicit in Rocks community. Mrs. Frances H. Paulette will be head of Evergreen solicitation, Mrs. Nanie Mae Davidson will head the Spout Spring area, and Rev. R. Q. Lawing will collect contributions through area churches.

The Fair Share Goal for the 1977 Crusade for Appomattox County has been set at $4850.00. During the month volunteers will be contacting residents and business establishments in an all out effort to reach this goal.

Join in the fight against cancer by doing three things: take time to learn cancer's seven warning signals and promise you will see a doctor immediately if any of these signals apply to you or someone in your family, second, be sure to have a regular health checkup to insure early detection and treatment when the chances are best for curing cancer, and third, support the programs of the American Cancer Society with a generous contribution when a volunteer comes to call.

Comments Sought On 1978 Wheat Marketing Quota, Acreage Allotment

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today asked for public views and recommendations concerning the need for marketing quotas for the 1978 crop of wheat. The comments must be received by the Department no later than April 15.

Under the provisions of basic legislation (The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended), the Secretary is required to determine whether or not marketing quotas should be in effect for the 1978 crop of wheat. If the Secretary determines that marketing quotas are needed, then he must announce the national marketing quota and acreage allotment by April 15. If the Secretary proclaims quotas, a referendum of wheat producers must be held not later than August 1. Two-thirds of producers voting in the referendum must approve of quotas for the program to take effect.

The Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 suspended the provisions of basic legislation for the duration of the Act. However, this legislation expires with the 1977 crop of wheat, New farm legislation will be considered this year which, if enacted,

cont'd on page 6

When the Red Cross Bloodmobile makes its last visit of the fiscal year to Appomattox on Tuesday, April 12th, Monroe Dyess, a 10 time donor; Robert Dyess, a one unit donor; Pat Seay, a 21 unit donor; Johnny Gallier, a 26 unit donor; Ruby Reynolds, a 16 unit donor; Peyton Cumby, a 21 unit donor; and Christine Ferguson, a 3 unit donor; left to right above, will be on hand to donate yet another unit of blood in an effort to help Appomattox County reach its quota of 102 units. The Bloodmobile will set up at Liberty Baptist Church on April 12th from noon until 6 p.m. A nursery will be provided for children of donors and the canteen will be manned by the Rocks Extension Homemakers Club. Seventeen year olds are reminded that they may donate blood with parental consent. Please call Mrs. Lucy Harvey (352-7309) if you need a consent form.

Bloodmobile Visit Set For Tuesday

The goal of the Red Cross is to have all the blood sick people need, without any strings attached. In the past, the Red Cross has asked people to replace blood people have received, according to Tom Schroot, Administrator of the Appalachian Red Cross Blood Center, but now they would like to go beyond replacement. The American Blood Commission, the Council of Community Blood Centers, and the Red Cross are attempting to have every community supply blood from volunteer donors for anyone in the community who needs it, all across the nation.

In earlier days of bloodbanking, donors were asked to replace blood that their relatives and friends had received in the hospital. In some cases, patients who had need blood were asked either to recruit donors to replace it, or

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Pamplin Teller Charged With $30,000 Theft

The FBI has obtained a warrant for Vance Rockland Newcomb, 22, of Drakes Branch, charging him with embezzling "in excess of $30,00 from the First National Bank of Farmville."

Newcomb was a teller at the Pamplin Branch of First National. The warrant was issued by U. S. Magistrate David G. Lowe in Richmond on Wednesday of last week.

Bank president, S. Bruce Spencer said Newcomb failed to report to work Monday morning, March 28th, and the shortage of funds was discovered later that morning. The FBI was called about 2 p.m. that day.

Spencer said the shortage of funds represents the bank's cash money taken from the vault. "Customer accounts are not involved in any way," Spencer said.

The stolen money apparently was all in paper bills of various denominations, Spencer indicated. "According to our audit, the bank's cash fund is the only one involved," he added, "and the loss is completely covered by insurance."

Spencer said Newcomb was employed by the bank last August and was assinged to the Pamplin Branch later in the fall.

Crumbs For Thought

By: ZEKE

Thereau wrote "It takes two to speak truth - one to speak and another to listen." Many truths are spoken but are missed because we are not listening. We seem to like the sound of our own voice better than the other fellow. But most of us already know what we tell, so we receive very little enlightment from it - And very probably we won't enlighten the listener.

I waited patiently for the Lord and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. Psalm 40:1